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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
EXAMINING GROUP 2100

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2100

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: D. Slawson et al. Attorney Docket No. MSFT112767
Application No.: 09/224,009 Group Art Unit: 2176
Filed: December 31, 1998 Examiner: W.L. Bashore
Title: VISUAL THESAURUS AS APPLIED TO MEDIA CLIP SEARCHING

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR RESPONSE
AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Seattle, Washington 98101

September 15, 2003

RECEIVED

SEP 25 2003

TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

Technology Center 2100

A. Amendment Transmittal

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

- X 1. No additional claim fee is required, as shown below.
 2. The claim fee has been calculated as shown below.

COMPUTATION OF FEE FOR CLAIMS AS AMENDED

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid For		Present Extra		Rate		Additional Fee
Total Claims	57	Minus	57	=	0	x	18	=	0.00
Independent Claims	4	Minus	4	=	0	x	84	=	0.00

Total Additional Fee \$0.00
for this Amendment

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OK TO ENTER 10/15/2003

B. Additional Fee Charges or Credit for Overpayment

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17 and 1.18 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 03-1740. This authorization also hereby includes a request for any extensions of time of the appropriate length required upon the filing of any reply during the entire prosecution of this application. A copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}



Gary S. Kindness

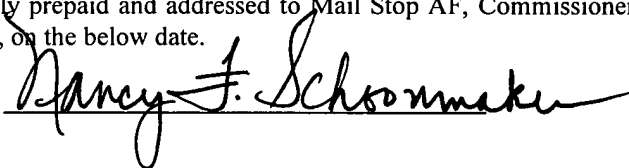
Registration No. 22,178

Direct Dial No. 206.695.1702

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service in a sealed envelope as first class mail with postage thereon fully prepaid and addressed to Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the below date.

Date:

9/15/03



GSK:nfs

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RESPONSE TO THE FINAL OFFICE ACTION

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Seattle, Washington 98101

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September 15, 2003

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TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS:

The July 15, 2003, Office Action ("Office Action") in the above-identified application withdrew the rejection of all of the claims remaining in this application under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) based on the teachings of United States Patent No. 5,493,677 (Balogh et al.). Rather than allowing the application, the Office Action rejected all of the claims remaining in this application, namely, Claims 1-9, 11-12, 14-32, 34-35, and 37-44, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the teachings of Balogh et al., taken in view of the teachings of United States Patent No. 5,696,964 (Cox et al.). For the reasons hereinafter set forth, applicants respectfully submit that the rejection of Claims 1-9, 11-12, 14-32, 34-35, and 37-44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable in view of the teachings of Balogh et al. taken in view of the teachings of Cox et al. is clearly in error, should be withdrawn, and these claims allowed.

Prior to discussing in detail why applicants believe that all the claims remaining in this application are allowable, a brief description of applicants' invention and a brief description of the cited and applied references are provided. The following discussions of applicants' invention and the cited and applied references are not provided to define the scope or interpretation of any of the claims of this application. Instead, these discussions are provided to help the United States Patent and Trademark Office better appreciate important claim distinctions discussed thereafter.

The Invention

This invention is directed to a method, apparatus, and computer-readable medium for searching media clip databases associated with a media application program wherein the media

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